



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

dogmatism of the eighteenth-century rationalists joined with the enthusiasm of the Romanticists for the state of nature," etc. *Die Aufklärung* and *die Aufklärungszeit* in the other volumes are usually rendered "enlightenment," "age of enlightenment." It seems to me, however, that in general historical narrative the proper equivalents are "rationalism" and "eighteenth-century rationalism." In several passages in this first volume the sense is obscured by rendering *wirthschaftlich* by "agricultural" instead of "economic." Two more errors may be mentioned, which must be charged up against the proof-reader. The reviser of the last chapter is Karl Weule in the German and Charles Weale in the English; and the portrait of Toscanelli is labeled Colombo, and that of Columbus is labeled Toscanelli.

EDWARD GAYLORD BOURNE.

*A General History of Commerce.* By WILLIAM CLARENCE WEBSTER, Ph.D. (Boston and London: Ginn and Company. 1903. Pp. ix, 526.)

It is the intention of the author and publishers that this book shall serve a three-fold purpose: that it shall be used (1) as a text-book in secondary schools that offer regular courses in economic history; (2) as a text-book in lower classes of colleges; and (3) as a companion book to the study of general history, or of the history of particular nations, in all schools. On the whole, because of its scope and method of treatment, it is probably best adapted for the third of these purposes. For the first purpose it ought to be preceded, in order to secure satisfactory results, by a thorough course in general history; for the second purpose it is hardly advanced and detailed enough, and for both purposes its point of view gives rise to serious objections to its use in courses other than the courses in history proper. A few characterizations will bring out more clearly this nature of the work.

It is a history of civilization in which is taken the commercial point of view of the history of the rise and fall of nations. It is really a story of national life. In his endeavor to "get clear-cut and accurate pictures of the commercial growth and decay of separate nations," and not to fail "to grasp the dramatic element which the subject presents," the author has too much emphasized the fact that commerce "prosperes in peace and is destroyed by war," and has not satisfactorily fulfilled his promise of presenting "an understanding of industrial, racial, and climatic" conditions which determine the course of industrial and commercial life. This makes the work more valuable for students who desire, for instance, suggestions as to the commercial aspects of the war between Philip II. and the Netherlands, or of the struggle for supremacy between England and France, than for students who are studying commerce and industry for the sake of the principles involved.

As the title indicates, it is a general history. In the space of 514 pages the author reviews the commercial history of nations from the earliest time to the present. It is necessarily, therefore, a compact statement

of facts and conclusions. The result is that the work is hardly detailed enough for a college course, although of suggestive value to students at that stage. For students in secondary schools, on the other hand, the author has succeeded in presenting so much, in so compact a form and with so many historical allusions, that to make its use profitable there should be a thorough preparation in general history.

In execution the author has been very successful. The parts are well balanced. A few generalizations are open to contradiction, a few more to question, but on the whole the work shows a good grasp of the historical movements in the various periods. In his analysis of the essential features of the industrial and commercial life of the last period the author is not so fortunate. The style is smooth and the ideas clearly presented. There is a good index and good bibliographical reference-lists. The eighteen maps are very helpful; ten more, in place of the illustrations of vessels of the various periods, would have helped the text so much the more.

Dr. Webster's work will be found to be a very suggestive companion book for students of political and of industrial history; and in those institutions in which the work is all commercial, in which there are no courses in general history, and in which something is needed to fill this place, this work is the best that has yet been published.

H. S. PERSON.

*A History of Egypt.* By E. A. W. BUDGE. (Oxford: University Press; New York: Henry Frowde. 1902. Eight volumes. Pp. xxiv, 222; xvi, 207; xvi, 219; xvi, 241; xvi, 219; xxxiv, 230; xvi, 251; xvi, 321.)

RESEARCH in the field of Egyptian history can hardly be said to have kept pace with the rapid progress made in the study of the language in the last twenty years. The career of the Nile valley peoples in its principal epochs and broad outlines may now be traced with a fair degree of clearness, but the whole subject abounds in unsettled problems which require to solve them only the collection of the existent materials, and bristles with innumerable questions demanding special investigation. The very bulk of the history under review would suggest that at least some of this work had been done in its preparation, but such is not the case. The author frequently attempts the solution of the more patent problems, but he is for the most part unconscious of their existence. Why his researches are not more successful will be apparent as we proceed.

The work covers the entire sweep of Egyptian history from the earliest times to the absorption of the country into the Roman Empire. The division into volumes is not well done: the twenty-sixth dynasty is needlessly cut in two at the end of Volume VI., and the Ptolemies suffer the same fate at the end of Volume VII. The method of treatment is a modification of the one introduced by Brugsch and Wiedemann in Germany and followed by Petrie in England. It consists of presenting the